

adjacent said path downstream of the mechanism, an array of sensors mounted for detecting color properties of discrete areas of each ~~a region of the test pattern strip~~ having an intended uniform color generated by the mechanism.

6. (original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 5, comprising:  
said sensors having predetermined spectral responses.

7. (original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 5 wherein the illumination source is broadband.

8. (original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:  
a white calibration target mounted within the field of view of all of said sensors.

9. (currently amended) A method for measuring actual color produced by a color hard copy device comprising the steps of:

a) illuminating with broad band light, a region of a color test pattern generated by the device, wherein said region has a first color generated by the device;

b) discretely sensing actual color characteristics of individual discrete areas of said region; and

c) storing data representative of said color characteristics.

10. (original) The method as set forth in claim 9, comprising the further steps of:  
printing a plurality of intended colors in addition to said first color with said device, and

repeating steps a)-c) for each of the plurality of intended colors other than said first color.

11. (original) The method as set forth in claim 9, comprising the further step of:  
prior to steps a) - c), calibrating each of said sensors using a white calibration target.

12. (new) A hard copy apparatus, comprising:  
a printing engine operable to form a test pattern of color strips on a print medium, each test strip being of an intended uniform color; and  
an array of sensors located downstream from the printing engine along a direction of travel of the printing medium, the array of sensors being oriented along an axis that is generally parallel to an orientation of the test strips, wherein as each test strip passes within view of the array of sensors, each sensor is positioned to detect a substantially discrete region of that test strip.
13. (new) The hardcopy apparatus of Claim 12, further comprising an illumination source positioned to project incident light to illuminate each test strip as that test strip passes within view of the sensor array.
14. (new) The hardcopy apparatus of Claim 12, wherein each sensor comprises a photodetector operable to measure a spectral characteristic of each test strip as the test strip passes within view of the sensor array is a photo.
15. (new) The hardcopy apparatus of Claim 14, further comprising a means for comparing a measured spectral characteristics of the test strip with intended spectral characteristics of the test strips.
16. (new) The hardcopy apparatus of Claim 15, further comprising a means for generating correction factors based on the comparisons for use for use by the printing engine.
17. (new) A color measurement system for use with a test pattern of color strips formed on a print medium, comprising:  
an array of photodetectors oriented along an axis that is generally parallel to an orientation of the test strips, wherein as each test strip passes within view of the array

of photodetectors, each photodetector is positioned to measure a spectral characteristic a substantially discrete region of that test strip as the test strip passes within view of the sensor array; and

a means for comparing measured spectral characteristics of the test strips with intended spectral characteristics of the test strips.

18. (new) The system of Claim 17, further comprising a means for generating correction factors based on the comparisons for use by a printing engine that formed the test strips.

19. (new) A color measurement method, comprising:  
forming a test pattern of color strips on a print medium;  
providing an array of photodetectors oriented along an axis that is generally parallel to an orientation of the test strips;  
urging the print media past the array; and  
for each test strip, using each photodetector in the array to measure a spectral characteristic a substantially discrete region of that test strip as the test strip passes within view of the array.

20. (new) The method of Claim 19, further comprising comparing a measured spectral characteristic of a particular test strip with an intended spectral characteristic of that test strip.

21. (new) The method of Claim 20, further comprising generating a correction factor based on the comparison for use by a printing engine that formed the particular test strip.